

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jean-Pierre Bertin, et al.

Filed: Herewith

For: APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING AUDIOVISUAL  
PROGRAMS

5

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents

10 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

15 Prior to examination and calculation of fees,  
please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and the  
accompanying remarks.

## IN THE CLAIMS

20 Please replace the claims with amended claims 1-9 as  
follows. A marked up copy of the amended claims is  
attached herewith.

- 25 1. (Amended) Apparatus for receiving audio-visual  
programs comprising a circuit for communication with  
means of connection to a bi-directional communication  
network, wherein the apparatus comprises :
- a first connector of a bus for communication with a  
master apparatus, the first connector comprising at  
30 least one conductor for the transmission of a supply  
voltage originating from the master apparatus,
  - at least one second connector of a  
communication bus, each second connector allowing the  
connection of at least one peripheral,
  - 35 - a splitter connected on the one hand to the  
first and second connectors and on the other hand to a  
controller managing the mode of operation of the  
connectors in relation to the apparatus,

#7  
Pre  
Amendment  
MAA  
3/29/02

TOP SECRET